

BETH ISRAEL HOSPITAL

STUYVESANT PARK EAST

NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF
BACTERIOLOGY AND SEROLOGY

March 28, 1950

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Asst. Prof. of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
College of Agriculture
Madison 6, Wisconsin

NATIONAL SALMONELLA CENTER
NEW YORK CITY

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

When we isolated the cultures which we sent to you, they had the characteristics described in the enclosed paper. That means that the white one was lactose slow, xylose strongly positive and H_2S production strongly positive. The variation from lactose positive to lactose slow occurred very infrequently and one has to devote quite a time and number of subcultures before one obtains such a split variant. On the other hand, the variation from lactose slow to lactose positive occurs regularly.

We have now retested the cultures which we sent to you some weeks ago and our results are in conformity with yours. That means that the xylose reaction of the white variant is now missing in bulk cultures; it may be obtained by testing many single colonies from this strain. The H_2S formation has been retained while the red does not show it.

I shall be grateful to learn whatever comes out of your studies with this couple of strains.

Sincerely yours,



ERICH SELIGMANN, M. D.

ES/b
Enc.